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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany

DATE:

SUBJECT Karl Germer Jr. and SPD internal Policy

DIST. 13 XX May 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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EVALUATION OF CONTENT

1. Through his secretary in Berlin, Frau Ringer, Schumacher keeps in contact with Karl Germer Jr., former co-chairman of the SPD, who resigned July 1946. Schumacher has asked Germer to contact Grotewohl. Germer has given Schumacher an official refusal, but has in fact been unofficially in touch with Grotewohl who has spurned Schumacher's approach. Grotewohl is, however, prepared to establish relations with other leading SPD members in the West, especially Erich Ollenhauer of the SPD Executive Committee.
2. Frau Ringer herself is in sympathy with Germer and informs the latter of Schumacher's policy.
3. Schumacher, in view of the failure through Germer, has asked Frau Ringer to contact Grotewohl directly.
4. Germer is also in touch with other SPD members in the West who are generally in agreement with his desire to do business with the Russians. Schumacher, on the other hand, is now faced with growing opposition in the SPD and, according to Germer, he is aware of his weakening position and is even ready to make approaches to the Russians, his preliminary step in this direction being his desire to contact Grotewohl.
5. Schumacher is regarded by the younger members of the party as becoming a Party dictator who brooks no interference with his own policy. A radical solution to the problem is being sought by Schumacher's opponents of whom Germer is the leading light, and the latter is also establishing contact with Högner in Bavaria and is sounding him on his views.
6. Germer's name appears on a list of seventeen men whom the Russians are said to favor for position in the Central German Government.

CLASSIFICATION

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☐ DECLASSIFIED

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